

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 01857

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS) CH, US

SUBJECT: MEDIA COVERAGE OF SECRETARY'S VISIT

1. SUMMARY: "PEOPLE'S DAILY" ON AUGUST 24 PROVIDED STANDARD COVERAGE OF SECRETARY VANCE'S ARRIVAL, ACTIVITIES, TALKS WITH CHINESE LEADERS, AND OF THE AUGUST 22 BUNQUET HOSTED BY PRC FOREIGN MINISTER HUANG HUO. THE NCNA DISPATCH OF THE BANQUET, HOWEVER, LEFT OUT PORTIONS OF SECRETARY VANCE'S TOAST TO HIS CHINESE HOSTS. END SUMMARY.

2. "PEOPLE'S DAILY" COVERAGE OF SECRETARY VANCE'S VISIT TO THE PRC HAS BEEN CONFINED TO A COLLECTION OF NCNA REPORTS REPRINTED ON PAGE OF THE AUGUST 24 ISSUE. THE FIVE DISPATCHES NOTED THE ARRIVAL OF THE US SECRETARY OF STATE, HIS TALKS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER HUANG HUA ON AUGUST 22 AND AUGUST 23 ACROBATIC SHOW, MR. VANCE'S VISIT TO THE HISTORICAL MUSEUM
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AND MRS. VANCE'S VISIT TO THE MING TOMBS AND THE GREAT WALL. HUANG HUA'S AND SECRETARY VANCE'S BANQUET TOASTS ARE ALSO EXCERPTED.

3. HUANG HUA'S REMARKS REMAINED LARGELY INTACT IN "PEOPLE'S DAILY" WITH ONLY THE REMOVAL OF HIS OPENING COMMENTS ABOUT MR. VANCE'S

PREVIOUS VISIT AS HEAD OF THE US WORLD AFFAIRS DELEGATION, HIS CHARACTERIZATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL AND PRC DOMESTIC SCENE AS "EXCELLENT" AND CHINESE DETERMINATION TO MODERNIZE AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY, NATIONAL DEFENSE, AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY BY THE END OF THE CENTURY.

4. HOWEVER, SECRETARY VANCE'S REMARKS WERE MORE HEAVILY EDITED. THE NCNA RELEASE DID NOT REPRINT HIS COMMENTS THAT:

--US AND CHINESE LEADERS HAVE MAINTAINED REGULAR CONTACT;

--HE HAS WARM MEMORIES OF HIS FIRST TRIP, WAS PLEASED AT SEEING OLD FRIENDS AGAIN, AND APPRECIATED THE WELCOME HE IS NOW RECEIVING;

--US FOREIGN POLICY IS ROOTED IN THE BELIEFS AND PRINCIPLES OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE;

--THE US IS DETERMINED TO PLAY A CREATIVE ROLE IN FACILITATING THE GLOBAL CHANGES THAT ARE NECESSARY FOR BRINGING ABOUT A MORE JUST AND DURABLE INTERNATIONAL ORDER:

--US POLICY TOWARD THE PRC FLOWS NATURALLY FROM CONSIDERATIONS OF STRENGTHENING RELATIONS WITH US ALLIES, IMPROVING RELATIONS
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WITH FORMER ADVERSARIES, MAINTAINING A STRONG DEFENSE, AND CREATING A JUST AND DURABLE INTERNATIONAL ORDER:

--THERE IS A MODEST LEVEL OF SINO-US TRADE, THERE ARE EXCHANGES IN A WIDE VARIETY OF FIELDS DEEPENING MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND FRIENDSHIP, AND THERE ARE LIAISON OFFICES IN THE RESPECTIVE CAPITALS.

AS A RESULT, SECRETARY VANCE'S SPEECH APPEARS LESS PERSONAL, NOT AS CONCERNED ABOUT THE US ROLE IN CREATING WORLD PEACE, AND MORE FOCUSED ON SINO-US RELATIONS WITHOUT MENTIONING ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE.

5. NEVERTHELESS, NCNA'S TREATMENT OF THE BANQUET DOES NOT SIGNIFICANTLY DEPART FROM PAST PRACTICE. DURING THE 1975 VISIT OF SECRETARY KISSINGER, NCNA WAS ALSO SELECTIVE IN ITS REPORTING OF BANQUET REMARKS MADE BY DR. KISSINGER AND THEN FOREIGN MINISTER CHIAO KUAN-HUA. CHIAO'S REMARKS CAME THROUGH QUITE FORCIBLY IN THE DISPATCH WHEREAS DR. KISSINGER'S

REMARKS WERE MORE HEAVILY EDITED, RESULTING IN A
PARTIAL STATEMENT OF THE US POSITION.

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